

Cunter, W. H.

[Barrister - At - Law, Toronto, Canada], 1921-1922

December 1st, 1920

W. H. Hunter, Esq.
Barrister-at-Law
Toronto, Canada

Dear Sir:

We have just received the very fine catalogue of the collection of Indian Peace Medals formed by you, to be sold by S.H.Chapman in Philadelphia on December 9th and 10th.

Among these pieces are several issued to Indians in the United States which should be in the Museum of the American Numismatic Society. Purchasing funds at our disposal are very limited and the annual income available for purchases would hardly buy more than one of the important pieces which are to be sold. We already have a very considerable collection of these Indian Peace Medals, and we should like to fill in some of the gaps.

Would you consider placing at our disposal a credit at this Sale to be used for the purchase of one or more pieces, which you would thus present to our Collection where they would find a permanent home, and serve as a memorial of your interest in this important field of numismatics?

Very respectfully yours,

Secretary

SFM/E

January 28th, 1921

W. H. Hunter, Esq.
Barrister-at-Law
Toronto, Can.

My dear Sir:

I have recently discovered in an old copy of the Proceedings of the American Numismatic Society, that Mr. James Oliver of New York exhibited at the rooms of the Society in 1887 a Military General Service medal with three bars for Fort Detroit, Chateauguay and Christler's Farm, but having inscribed upon the edge Jean-Baptiste Lapierre, Canadian Militia.

This medal was later sold with the rest of the Oliver Collection by Sotheby in 1891; and in the Sotheby catalogue the name is given as in the Proceedings of the Society. As Mr. McLachlan has stated in the Canadian Antiquarian and Numismatic Journal that the medal in your Collection issued to Jean-Baptiste Laclair was the only medal with three bars issued, I am rather anxious to find out just what this medal in the Oliver Collection was.

That the edge inscription as reported is correct seems probable from the fact that it appears exactly the same in two such widely separated sources as the Society's Proceedings and the Sotheby Catalogue.

I am interested in the whole subject because I am preparing a monograph on the Military General Service medals with the bars relating to the War of 1812, which I hope to publish as one of the series of Numismatic Notes and Monographs issued by this Society. And I should very much appreciate any information you could give me on the subject, and especially anything with regard to the pedigree of the medal in your Collection, such as the source from which you secured it, etc.

Very truly yours,

Assistant to Curator